UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

NORTH AMERICAN COMPANY FOR LIFE AND HEALTH INSURANCE,

Plaintiff.

v.

JULIE RENEE MARTIN, ROLLIN CHARLES BENNETT, and JOSEPH RODERICK CLARK,

Defendants.

Case No.: 15cv1595 AJB (WVG)

ORDER GRANTING PLAINTIFF'S
MOTION FOR AN EXTENSION OF
TIME TO SERVE DEFENDANTS
AND DENYING WITHOUT
PREJUDICE PLAINTIFF'S
REQUEST FOR AN ORDER
AUTHORIZING ALTERNATE
MEANS OF SERVICE

(Doc. No. 9)

Presently before the Court is Plaintiff North American Company for Life and Health Insurance's ("Plaintiff") motion for an extension of time to serve Defendant Julie Renee Martin ("Martin") and to permit an alternative means of service. (Doc. No. 9.) In its motion, Plaintiff explains that Martin is residing in Mexico and Plaintiff has been unable to serve Martin within the time prescribed by Rule 4 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure. (Id. ¶ 10.) Plaintiff further represents that Martin has obtained counsel, but has not authorized her counsel to accept service of process on her behalf. (Id. ¶¶ 7, 9.) Plaintiff requests the Court exercise its discretionary powers under Rule 4(f)(3) and order that Plaintiff may serve Martin through an alternative means of service, specifically

through email or mail to Martin's attorney or via ordinary mail to Martin's mailing address in Chula Vista, California. (*Id.* ¶ 13.)

Upon review of Plaintiff's motion and the facts set forth therein, the Court finds good cause exists to extend the time for Plaintiff to serve Martin. *See* Fed. R. Civ. P. 4(m) (noting if a plaintiff shows good cause for the failure to timely serve a defendant, "the court must extend the time for service for an appropriate period"). Thus, the Court **GRANTS** Plaintiff's request for an extension of time to serve Martin, and permits Plaintiff an additional sixty (60) days from the date of this order within which to properly effect service on Defendant Martin. The Court, however, **DENIES WITHOUT PREJUDICE** Plaintiff's request for an order authorizing an alternative means of service. If Plaintiff is unable to properly effect service within the additional time allotted, Plaintiff may refile a properly noticed motion for an order authorizing an alternative means of service, including a discussion of the relevant legal standard, the specific alternative means of service requested, and whether such alternative means satisfy the requirements of due process and the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: November 18, 2015

Hon. Anthony J. Battaglia United States District Judge